

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed April 8, 2008, has been received and reviewed. In the Office Action, claims 13-19, 33-39, 44-47, 55-59, 61-64, and 66 were pending in the subject application. Claims 18, 19, 33-39, 44-47, 59, 61-64, and 66 were allowed and the remaining claims stand rejected. More specifically, claims 13-17 and 55-58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,131,208 to Banks (hereinafter the “Banks reference”). Reconsideration of the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 18, 19, 33-39, 44-47, 59, 61-64, and 66.

Rejections based upon 35 U.S.C. § 102

“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *Verdeggal Brothers v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). “The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the . . . claim.” *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 19133, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989); *see also*, MPEP § 2131.

Claims 13-17 and 55-58 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by the Banks reference. Independent claim 13 has been canceled by way of the present amendment. Dependent claims 14-17 and 55-58, which previously depended from independent claim 13, have been amended to depend from allowable independent claim 18.

Thus, as amended, each of claims 14-17 and 55-58 are in condition for allowance at least because of their dependence from allowable independent claim 18.

CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons stated above, claims 14-19, 33-39, 44-47, and 54-67 are now in condition for allowance. Claim 13 has been canceled by way of the present amendment. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of the claims. If any issues remain that would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned – 816-474-6550 or jgibson@shb.com (such communication via email is herein expressly granted) – to resolve the same. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any amount required to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,

/John E. Gibson/

John E. Gibson
Reg. No. 52,944

JEG/AJKX

SHOOK, HARDY & BACON L.L.P.
2555 Grand Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64108-2613
816-474-6550